

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 15, 2003

S. 551

Southern Ute and Colorado Intergovernmental Agreement Implementation Act of 2003

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on July 30, 2003

S. 551 would authorize the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to treat the Southern Ute Indian Tribe as a state under section 301(d) of the Clean Air Act. The bill would allow the tribe to accept delegation of EPA's authority under the Clean Air Act in the same manner as states. Enacting S. 551 would provide that, if the tribe submits an application under section 301(d) and if the application is approved, the resulting program would apply to all lands within the Southern Ute Reservation, including lands owned by non-Indians. The bill also would give jurisdiction for enforcement of those delegated powers to the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado. According to EPA, enacting this legislation would not change the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's eligibility for federal grants in any manner. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would not have a significant effect on the federal budget.

S. 551 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. This legislation would implement an agreement entered into voluntarily by the state of Colorado and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and any costs incurred by either the state or the tribe would stem from their acceptance of that agreement.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Susanne S. Mehlman (for federal costs), and Marjorie Miller (for the state, local, and tribal impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.